II

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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1971

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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ASSISTANT SURVEYOR AND ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

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Rural District Council Offices,
South Street,
Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leicester,
LE6 5BU.

September, 1972.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Report of the Medical Officer of Health concerning the sanitary circumstances, sanitary administration and vital statistics of the district for the year 1971. This has been prepared, so far as possible, according to the lines indicated in Circular 1/72, dated 3rd January, 1972 from the Department of Health and Social Security.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the help received from the members of the staff of the Public Health Department, and to record my appreciation of the courtesy and consideration shown to me by all the members of your staff with whom I have had contact and, not least, by all the members of the Council.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

ANDREW HAMILTON

Medical Officer of Health.

Private Residence:

"Barony",
15, Neville Drive,
Coalville,
Leicester. LE6 3DX.

Telephone No:

Coalville 3723

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (in acres).	28,169
Resident Population (R.G.'s estimate).	14,680
Number of occupied dwellings.	5,264
Number of occupied Council houses.	1,302
Rateable value, (1st April, 1971).	£473,912
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£4,626

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.	M.	F.	Total.	1971.	England & Wales 1971 (Prov:)	Ashby R.D.C. 1970.
Legitimate.	116	118	234			
Illegitimate.	4	6	10			
	120	124	244	244		231
Crude Live Birth rate per 1,000 population.				16.6	16.0	16.4
Area Comparability Factor.				1.03	1.00	1.03
Adjusted Live Birth rate per 1,000 population.				17.1	16.0	16.9
Ratio of local Adjusted Birth rate of National rate.				1.07	1.00	1.06
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births.				4	8	6

Still Births.	M.	F.	Total.			
Legitimate.	-	1	1			
Illegitimate.	-	-	-			
	-	1	1	1		2
Still Births rate per 1,000 total live and still births.				4	12	9

	M.	F.	Total.	1971	England & Wales 1971 (Prov:)	Ashby R.D.C. 1970
Total Live and Still Births.						
Legitimate.	116	119	235			
Illegitimate.	4	6	10			
	120	125	245	245		233
Deaths of Infants (under one year).						
Legitimate.	3	2	5			
Illegitimate.	-	-	-			
	3	2	5	5		2
Infant Mortality Rates.						
Deaths under 1 yr. per 1,000 live births.				20	18	9
Legitimate infant deaths under 1 yr. per 1,000 legitimate births.				21	17	5
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births.				-	24	71
Deaths of Infants (under 4 weeks of age).						
Legitimate.	1	2	3			
Illegitimate.	-	-	-			
	1	2	3	3		1
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).				12	12	4
Deaths of infants (under 1 week of age).						
Legitimate.	-	1	1			
Illegitimate.	-	-	-			
	-	1	1	1		0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births).				4	10	0

	1971.	England & Wales 1971 (Prov:)	Ashby R.D.C. 1970
Peri-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week and still births combined per 1,000 total live and still births).	8	22	9
Maternal Mortality (including abortion).			
Number of deaths.	0		0
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births.	0		0
Deaths.			
M. 93 F. 75 Total. 168	168		152
Crude death rate per 1,000 population.	11.4	11.6	10.8
Area Comparability Factor.	1.07	1.00	1.07
Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population.	12.2	11.6	11.6
Ratio of local adjusted death rate to National rate.	1.05	1.00	.99

Births.

Only 28 of the 244 births registered occurred at home. The birth rate at 17.1 compares with that for England and Wales at 16, and with last year's rate for the district at 16.9.

The illegitimate live births per cent of total births was 4, that for the country as a whole was 8 and for the district last year 6.

Deaths.

168 deaths of people resident in the area took place, 72 of them in other districts and most of these in hospital. The death rate at 12.2 is slightly above the national rate.

Infantile Mortality.

Last year we had a particularly low infantile mortality rate, but this year it is, at 20, just above that for England and Wales, (18).

5 babies died before reaching their first birthday - all of them in hospital and 3 of them actually less than 4 weeks of age.

Population.

The estimated population has increased from 14,120 to 14,680 - a rise of 560.

Social Services.

The Social Services Department of the Leicestershire County Council came into existence on 1st April, 1971. An area office was set up at Park House, 43, London Road, Coalville to serve Coalville Urban District, Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District, Ashby Woulds Urban District, Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District and part of Market Bosworth Rural District - under the supervision of an Area Director.

This Department has responsibility for all the services previously administered by the Children's Department, together with the welfare services of the Health and Welfare Department, which include the welfare of the mentally ill and the mentally handicapped, the physically handicapped and the elderly, the provision of a Home Help service and the supervision of play-groups and child-minders.

Meals on Wheels.

This service continued satisfactorily, largely due to the work done by the organisers in the way of distribution. Thanks are due to them and to the firm cooking the meals. 23 visits, involving 26 persons, were paid during the year in connection with applications for the service, and most of these were supported, although quite frequently there existed a waiting list. No extension of the present scheme has been made.

Chiropody.

A chiropody service for the aged was instituted at Measham during the year, and efforts were being continued to provide a similar service in Swannington.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951.

No formal action was found to be necessary under the above Acts, but one particularly difficult case was dealt with informally, the patient most intimately involved agreeing to enter hospital voluntarily. Even then, the problem was not completely solved, but some improvement was certainly effected.

Occasional enquiries have been made in other cases to which our attention has been drawn in a variety of ways.

Coleorton Area Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme.

An enquiry into the above scheme for the village of Coleorton, including parts of the parishes of Swannington, Ravenstone and Worthington, was held on 13th October, 1971.

Your Consulting Engineers outlined the proposed scheme in detail, supported by your Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector. The evidence which I would have given would have further supported the case as outlined, stressing the undesirability of the present arrangements - pail closets, cesspools and septic tanks and would have stated that although we have had no evidence that specific diseases had been caused locally by these conditions the whole arrangement was bad and constituted a potential hazard to the public health. The Inspector accepted the proof of evidence submitted by me and did not call on me to give oral evidence.

Food Hygiene.

There is an increasing emphasis on the need for clean food and, on the part of the public, an increasing awareness of the steps which should be taken to ensure that food and drink intended for human consumption should be wholesome and safe.

In spite of this, however, it must be admitted that there is still a good deal of ignorance on the subject, both on the part of the public generally and on the part of the food handlers as well.

To reduce the risks of contamination a high standard of personal hygiene should be practised and to this end Codes of Practice referable to Licensed Premises, Cafes, Canteens, Bakehouses and Restaurant kitchens, Food Shops, Fried Fish Shops and Meat Shops - the whole under the title "Thought for Food" - were compiled by one of your Public Health Officers and were supplied to employers in the trades or activities mentioned for the information of themselves and their employees.

In addition, in collaboration with the other three adjoining Authorities and with the ready support and co-operation of the editor of the local weekly newspaper, the Coalville and Ashby Times published what amounted to a food hygiene supplement, running to several columns, the material being supplied by your Medical Officer of Health and attracting a number of advertisements with a food hygiene bearing.

It is difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy the effect of efforts of this kind but nevertheless it is considered to be well worth while to continue this particular kind of health education.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE.

Causes of Death.	SEX	Total all Ages.	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year.	AGE IN YEARS. 1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over.
Enteritis & other Diarrhoeal Diseases.	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Leukaemia.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms.	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus.	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Anaemias.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Meningitis.	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Multiple Sclerosis.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hypertensive Disease.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease.	M	26	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	6	8	8
	F	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	5	8
Other Forms of Heart Disease.	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Cerebrovascular Disease.	M	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	7
	F	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4
Pneumonia.	M	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Bronchitis & Emphysema.	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peptic Ulcer.	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Nephritis & Nephrosis.	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Anomalies.	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms & Ill-defined Conditions.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	M	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
All Other Accidents.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Suicide & Self-Inflicted Injuries.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL - ALL CAUSES.	M	93	1	2	-	1	-	1	1	7	19	25	36
	F	75	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	8	7	15	41

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious Diseases during 1971.

13 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year as below :

Age.	Measles.		Scarlet Fever.		Meningitis Unspecified Organisms.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year.	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 2	1	1	-	-	-	1
2 to 3	-	1	-	1	-	-
3 to 4	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 to 5	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 9	-	-	-	1	-	-
10 to 14	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 and over.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	1	2	-	2	-	1
Total - both sexes.	3		2		1	

Age.	Tetanus		Infective Jaundice		Tuberculosis. Respiratory		Tuberculosis. Meninges & C.N.S.		Tuberculosis. Other	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 4 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9 years.	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
55 - 64 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - 74 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 75 years.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total - both sexes.	-		2		-		-		2	

Three cases of Whooping Cough were also notified - one female in the Under 1 year age group; one male in the 2-4 years age group; and one male in the 5-9 years age group.

Table showing incidence of Notifiable Diseases in each Parish during year 1971.

Parish	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Infective Jaundice	Measles	Meningitis	Tuberculosis		Totals
						Respiratory	Other	
Appleby Magna.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Bardon.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chilcote.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coleorton.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Heather.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Measham.	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Normanton-le-Heath.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe.	-	2	-	2	1	-	-	5
Osgathorpe.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Packington.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ravenstone.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Snarestone.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Staunton Harold.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stretton-en-le-Field.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swannington.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Swepstone.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Worthington.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Totals.	2	3	2	3	1	-	2	13

Table showing Incidence of Notifiable Diseases in each month during year 1971.

Month.	Whooping Cough	Measles	Infective Jaundice	Meningitis	Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	Scarlet Fever	Totals.
January.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
February.	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
March.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
April.	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
May.	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
June.	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
July.	2	1	-	-	-	-	3
August.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
September.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
October.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
November.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
December.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	3	3	2	1	2	2	13

Everyone is well aware of the increase in international travel in the way of business and holidays. A certain amount of work has devolved on your Public Health department in following up travellers who have returned to this district from countries in which they might have been in contact with cholera, typhoid fever or smallpox. They are usually kept under observation for a period which would cover the incubation period of the particular disease and are also requested to contact their own doctor without delay if they should feel off colour.

It is worth mentioning that vaccination against smallpox need not now be recommended as a routine procedure in early childhood, but that travellers to and from areas of the world where smallpox is endemic should be protected by recent vaccination.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Rural District Council of
Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to present for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1971.

During the year schemes were approved for the laying of sewers in all those parts of the Rural District which lack these facilities at the present time, with the exception of Bardon which is a scattered area with a resident population of less than 60.

The major scheme is, of course, the Coleorton one, in fact this is the most expensive scheme the Council have at any time carried out; but when completed will mean, to all intents and purposes, the elimination of pail closets.

The modernised works at Ravenstone and Donisthorpe are now giving effluent results well below River Board standard.

Mining subsidence gave some cause for concern and it was necessary to lay relief sewers following subsidence damage in Main Street, Swannington and Bosworth Road, Measham.

A reasonably high standard of hygiene has been obtained in the various food shops but it was unfortunately necessary to take legal proceedings in respect of one cafe where persuasion failed to secure satisfactory results.

Particulars of water supplies to dwelling houses :

Internal Mains Water Supply		Mains water from External standpipes		Well water supply	
No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population
5203	Est: 14580	Est: -	Est: -	Est: 40	Est: 100

Number of parishes with piped water supply :

from public mains : 16 from private reservoirs : Nil

Number of parishes without a piped supply : 1 (part) - Bardon.

Water Supply from Wells.

Number of samples taken for analysis.			
Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	
Chemical.	Bacteriological.	Chemical.	Bacteriological.
-	-	-	-

The following figures were supplied by the Engineer to the North West Leicestershire Water Board :

Piped Supplies & Raw Water.		Results of Analyses.	
Bacteriological.		Chemical.	
Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
89	-	-	-

Extension of public water supplies :

1. Improvements to distribution supplies Measham to Appleby Magna, 7 yards 4" pipe and 1,749 yards 8" pipe.

2. Housing development :

   Atherstone Road, Measham (for Messrs. Pat Pateman & Son), 290 yards 4" pipe.

   Homecroft Drive, Packington (for Messrs. A.H. Wilson, (Contractors) Ltd.), 55 yards 3" pipe.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The position at the year end was as follows :

Appleby Magna.	Sewer extensions at Appleby Parva and Bowley's Lane completed.
Acresford.	Sewerage scheme completed - effluent pumped to Donisthorpe.
Bardon.	Scattered area - impossible to sewer.
Chilcote.	Scheme agreed by Council, details in course of preparation.
Coleorton.	Scheme agreed by Ministry and tender documents, etc. being prepared.
Donisthorpe.	The works deal with effluent from part of Ashby Woulds Urban District Council in addition to the village of Donisthorpe. The works are producing a very good effluent.
Heather.	These works are overloaded. Scheme agreed for abandonment of works, sewage to be pumped to Ibstock works, (Market Bosworth Rural District Council).
Measham and Oakthorpe.	Works overloaded. Scheme in course of preparation for enlargement of works to deal with a population of 5,000.
Normanton-le-Heath.	Sewerage scheme completed - sewage pumped to Ravenstone.

Osgathorpe.	Sewage pumped to Coalville U.D.C. Instructions given for scheme to deal with Gracedieu area - the part of theparish at present not sewered.
Packington.	Sewage is pumped to Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council.
Ravenstone.	Works completely reconstructed.
Snarestone.	Works overloaded, scheme of enlargement 80% completed.
Swannington.	Sewage is pumped to Coalville Urban District Council.
Worthington.	Works overloaded. Scheme for enlargement prepared. These works will deal with sewage from the Coleorton scheme.

Inspections of sewers and ditches and work in hand.	133
Blocked sewers cleaned.	14
Inspection of sewage works and pumping stations.	168
Ditches cleaned out.	2
Number of septic tanks constructed during the year.	10
Number of septic tanks abolished during the year.	35
Number of septic tanks/cesspools at 31st December, 1971.	476
Visits in connection with new sewage schemes.	419

The Council agreed to Work Study techniques being applied to the sewage works staff. As a result a bonus scheme was introduced and the men are now able to earn a bonus of up to 25% of their weekly pay for a 40 hour week. The men appear to be very satisfied with the scheme.

NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

(other than work connected with Improvement Grants/ Standard Grants).

New drainage systems laid to sewer.	58
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets.	3
Pail closets abolished.	3
Septic tanks provided.	-
Visits of inspection.	70

A grant of £30.00, or half the cost, whichever is the lower, is given towards closet conversion.

Closet Accommodation.

Total number in district at 31st December, 1971 :

Privies : Nil. Pail Closets : 275 Water Closets : 4968

COMPLAINTS.

Set out below are details of the various complaints which have been received, together with a table showing repairs, etc. carried out.

Dwellings rendered fit or defects remedied.	16
Complaints received.	45
Premises inspected.	50
Groundless complaints.	1
Revisits to work in hand.	148
Premises at which nuisances abated.	49
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated or cleared, (does not include sewers).	24
Cesspools cleansed or repaired (other than routine emptying).	3
Damp walls remedied.	11
Ditches cleaned out.	5
Chimney stacks repaired.	6
Plastering repaired.	7
Offensive accumulations removed.	7
Roofs repaired.	17
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes repaired or renewed.	11
Floors repaired.	8
Doors repaired or renewed.	7
Cellar flooding abated.	4
Fly or insect nuisances abated.	1
Windows repaired.	26
Water closets repaired.	3
Noise nuisance abated.	1
Verminous or dirty premises cleansod.	2
Offensive smells abated.	3
Miscellaneous nuisances abated.	8
Smoke nuisance abated.	5
Defects at private sewage works remedied.	1
Ponds filled in.	1
Sinks renewed.	1

Inspections made.

Animal keeping.	22
Bakehouses.	12
Drainage works.	200
Dwelling houses.	693
Infectious diseases.	9
Food premises.	371
Refuse collection and disposal.	317
Rodent Control, (other than those carried out by Rodent Operator).	22
Shops and Offices.	173
Slaughterhouses and meat inspection.	147
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	27
Verminous and dirty premises.	2
Water supplies.	2
Factories and workplaces.	65
Smoke control.	3
Food poisoning.	1
Other inspections.	354
	3,420

Notices.

Preliminary.	Housing.	Public Health.
Outstanding on 1st January, 1971.	-	14
Issued during the year.	-	19
Complied with during the year.	-	16
Outstanding on 31st December, 1971.	-	17
Statutory.		
Outstanding on 1st January, 1971.	-	1
Issued during the year.	-	4
Complied with during the year.	-	1
Outstanding on 31st December, 1971.	-	4

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT ACT, 1963.

There are 5 licensed premises and 22 inspections have been carried out.

Premises were found to be generally satisfactory and minor matters requiring attention were put right on request.

CARAVAN SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

A number of complaints were received in respect of itinerants who parked on verges of roads and were a nuisance to residents. It is very difficult to know how to deal with these people. The police were as helpful as possible by moving the itinerants on, but this only causes them to be a nuisance elsewhere. Resentment is caused not because they simply camp on the verges but because of the unsightlyness of the materials they collect and the rubbish and filth they leave behind for someone else to clean up.

The caravan site at Appleby Magna continued to be fully occupied and we had to turn away a number of applicants.

Charges remain at 30p for daily tenancies and £1.50p for weekly tenancies. Electricity is paid for by meter.

A total of 27 visits were made. The total number of licensed sites in the district is 27.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The co-ordination of rodent control measures between Urban and Rural districts were continued throughout the year as part of a County wide scheme. Special emphasis was made through the National Farmers' Union and by letter from this Authority regarding the form of control that should be carried out by farmers in their buildings and fields. Arrangements were also made to step up the treatment of lay-byes throughout the Rural District.

The Council's rodent operator has been fully engaged during the year and different types of poisons have been used when it was thought necessary to maintain efficient measures of rodent extermination.

Number of infestations dealt with : 254
Number of inspections by rodent operator : 1,751

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

Routine inspections were carried out to all premises registered under the Act within this Authority and the number of visits were 173.

Two accidents were reported during the year, one occurring in a warehouse and one during the delivery of stationery at an office. Enquiries were made into the causes of both accidents and it was found that no contravention of the Act had occurred, and the causes were due mainly to unfortunate circumstances in each case. Advice was given in an endeavour to prevent a re-occurrence of such an event.

A leaflet - "Safe use of food slicing machines" - appears to have been well received and such information helps to give the right kind of approach to the need for guards and proper training in the use of these machines. There was some mild opposition to the installation of guards during the early days of the Act, but all the persons using this type of machine now accept them as a matter of course. This may be due to the fact that all new machines are fitted with guards and that the information given helped to point out the dangers of using these machines without the necessary guards.

The mechanical handling of goods in this district is carried out mainly in two warehouses where they use fork lift trucks and conveyor belts. The machines are adequately guarded and information has been given in the care required when using these machines.

Type of Premises.	Businesses Registered	Inspections made.	Contraventions.		
			Found	Remedied	Outstanding at 31.12.71.
Offices.	6	19	2	2	-
Retail Shops.	37	109	9	12	5
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses, etc.	3	12	3	3	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens, etc.	5	25	4	6	2
Fuel Storage Depots.	3	8	-	-	-
TOTAL.	54	173	18	23	7

Analysis of Contraventions.

Cleanliness	-	4	Sanitary Accommodation	-	2
Temperature	-	5	Floors and Passages	-	1
Lighting	-	4	First Aid	-	2

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967.

A number of cars were abandoned on verges of highways and on private land and these were removed and destroyed.

HOUSING.

New Houses.

Houses completed during the year.	Prefab: Permanent	Permanent	Average cost per house, excluding site works and land.	Weekly Rent (exclusive of rates) and heating charges
By Local Authority	-	-	-	-
By Private Enterprise	-	92	-	-
Houses in course of construction at year end.				
By Local Authority.	-	48	-	-
By Private Enterprise.	-	77	-	-

Total number of post-war houses completed by Local Authority.	...	1019
Total number of post-war houses completed by private enterprise.	...	1157
Total number of applicants for council houses at end of year.	...	153
Total number of applications for council houses received during year.	...	73
Total number of council houses in the district prior to 1939.	...	312
Total number of pre-war houses purchased by the council and renovated.	...	23
Total number of occupied council houses in the district.	...	1302
Total number of occupied houses in the district.	...	5264

Tenders were accepted for the erection of dwellings and flats and at the year end work had started at Dyson's Close, Measham (28 dwellings), and Narrow Lane, Donisthorpe (32 dwellings). In addition preparations had been made for a start at Main Street, Normanton-le-Heath, (8 dwellings). The remaining part of the contract, the Jenny's Lane, Ravenstone site (4 dwellings), and Main Street, Swepstone (4 dwellings), to be started in 1972, as were 8 dwellings at Appleby Magna.

Council houses which became vacant, (52), were not re-let as it was felt that as many empty houses as possible should be available for temporary re-housing of tenants during modernisation of the pre-war houses.

Prices were obtained for the modernisation of 281 pre-war council houses with a view to a start on the work in the Spring of 1972. The contract calls for the whole of the work to be completed in a period of a little over a year.

New buildings, additions, extensions, etc.

New dwellings by Local Authority.	...	
New dwellings by private enterprise.	...	92
New houses drained to sewer.	...	87
New houses drained to septic tanks.	...	5
New houses with water from public mains.	...	92
New houses under construction at year end.	...	125
Visits of inspection to properties under construction.	...	424
Visits to Council properties.	...	44
Visits in connection with alterations to existing buildings.	...	171

BUILDING REGULATIONS.

During the year 310 applications were submitted for consideration under the Building Regulations.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1947.

Applications for planning permission were again higher than the previous year - 283 applications being dealt with.

LOANS FOR HOUSE PURCHASE.

56 properties were inspected during the year as a result of requests for loans and in the majority of cases loans were approved. 66 visits of inspection were made.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

These grants are discretionary, councils themselves being able to decide, as a matter of policy, whether to make grants or not, but, if they refuse a grant application or give less than 50% of the amount eligible, they must give reasons in writing to the applicant.

It has been the council's policy to give 50% towards the cost of work eligible for grant. Almost all of the applications are from owner/occupiers.

Number of Improvement Grant applications approved.	owner/occupied	23
	tenanted	3
Number of Conversion Grant applications approved.	owner/occupied	-
	tenanted	2
Number of Improvement Grants refused.		-
Dwellings improved during the year.		13
Total amount Council have paid by way of Grant.		£7,435
Bathrooms.		9
Wash hand basins.		9
Hot water systems.		8
Sinks provided.		5
Drainage.		2
New windows and repairs to windows.		22
New floors.		34
Fireplaces.		11
Central heating.		5
New food stores.		4
Septic tanks provided.		1
Damp proof courses.		10
Roofs repaired.		2
Power circuits provided.		11
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes.		1
External paving.		2
Lighting system renewed.		1
Staircase renewed.		1
Dwelling house into flats.		1
Alterations to kitchen.		1

New fuel store.	1
Walls plastered.	9
Ceilings plastered.	1
Pointing to walls.	1
Pails abolished.	1
Visits and re-visits.	184
Total number of offers made since inception of scheme (including informal offers).	501

Grants completed by villages.

Colcorton	...	1
Heather	...	1
Measham	...	2
Newbold	...	1
Normanton-le-Heath	...	1
Newton Burgoland	...	1
Oakthorpe	...	1
Osgathorpe	...	2
Swannington	...	1
Worthington	...	2

STANDARD GRANTS.

Provided the statutory requirements are met local authorities must give Standard Grants on application. Grant aid is given as follows :

Fixed bath or shower	...	£30
Wash hand basin	...	£10
Sink	...	£15
Hot and cold water supply to bath	...	£45
Hot and cold water supply to wash hand basin	...	£20
Hot and cold water supply to sink	...	£30
Water closet	...	£50

or one half, whichever is the less.

Applications approved	owner/occupied	28
	tenanted	5
Works completed		57
Total paid by way of grant		£7,602
Fixed baths or showers.		42
Re-positioning of baths.		1
Re-positioning of wash hand basins.		3
Wash hand basins.		47
Hot and cold water supply to baths.		42
Hot and cold water supply to wash hand basins.		47
Hot water supply to wash hand basins.		1
Hot water supply to kitchen sinks.		29
Hot and cold water supply to kitchen sinks.		8
New sinks.		14
Internal water closets.		52
Food stores.		3
Septic tanks.		4
Pails abolished.		21
Visits and re-visits.		245
Total number of offers made since inception of scheme (including informal offers).		761

Grants completed by villages.

Acresford.	...	13
Appleby Magna.	...	6
Coleorton.	...	3
Donisthorpe.	...	6
Griffydam.	...	1
Heather.	...	1
Measham.	...	10
Newton Burgoland.	...	1
Normanton-le-Heath.	...	1
Oakthorpe.	...	2
Osgathorpe.	...	1
Packington.	...	2
Ravenstone.	...	4
Swannington.	...	3
Swepstone.	...	1
Worthington.	...	2

Qualification Certificates.

Number of applications for Qualification Certificates.	...	3
Certificates issued.	...	3
Provisional certificates issued.	...	1
Applications deferred.	...	-
Applications refused.	...	-

General.

A total of 330 Improvement Grants and 490 Standard Grants have now been approved to the owners of properties in the Rural District, and detailed discussions held with many owners who have been informed that grants will be recommended to the Council.

There is no doubt that costs have risen sharply during the past year and actual amounts paid by way of Improvement Grants are now invariably in the region of the maximum allowable - £1,000. It is, of course, a fact that it becomes increasingly more difficult to find cottages to renovate and where these are found greater expenditure is required to modernise them, in addition to which the standards which owner/occupiers aspire to are much higher than previously and it is found that the majority now include central heating as a "must".

SLUM CLEARANCE.

Houses Demolished.			
	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year.	
		Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas.			
Houses unfit for human habitation.	-	-	-
Houses included by reason of bad arrangements, etc.	-	-	-
Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act 1957.	-	-	-
Not in Clearance Areas.			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act 1957.	1	-	-
Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health.	-	-	-
Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts.	-	-	-
Unfit houses included in Unfitness Order.	-	-	-
Unfit houses closed.			
Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act 1957.	-	2	1
Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957.	-	-	-
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act 1957.	-	-	-

Houses demolished for other reasons	:	7
Houses lost by conversion	:	-
Houses gained by conversion	:	2
Number of Demolition Orders made	:	1

Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner.	By Local Authority.
After informal action by Local authority.	16	-
After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts.	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act 1957.	-	-

Visits of inspection : 21

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Ice Cream.

Number of premises registered for manufacture and retail.	...	Nil
Number of premises registered for manufacture only.	...	Nil
Number of premises registered for retail only.	...	73
Number of samples taken.	...	52

Results of samples :	Grade I	17
	Grade II	18
	Grade III	6
	Grade IV	1
	Lollipop.	1 (Satisfactory).

Ice Cream is purchased from national manufacturers, with two exceptions - manufacturers in adjoining districts. Owing to failure of apparatus at the Laboratory seven samples were returned as void and two were lost in an accident at the Laboratory.

Milk Supply.

Dairies (other than dairy farms) and distributors (Section 8, Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949)

Number on Register	:	Dairies	-
		Distributors	1
Number of Inspections	:	Dairies	-
		Distributors	2

Biological Milk Samples taken by County Council.

Number of routine bulk samples taken	...	25
Results satisfactory	...	22
Evidence of living Brucella Abortis	...	-

Bacteriological Milk Samples taken by County Council.

Untreated milk samples	...	25
Satisfactory	...	22
Failed Methylene Blue Test	...	3

Meat and Other Foods.

Number of licensed slaughterhouses in area	...	2
Number of animals slaughtered therein	...	689
Number of animals examined therein	...	689
Number of animals inspected at time of slaughter	...	476
Number of Knackers yards in area	...	1
Number of visits to Knackers yard	...	6
Number of visits to slaughterhouses	...	147

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970.

Food Premises in Categories.	Premises which comply with Regulation 18.	Premises which will comply with Regulation 21.
Number of licensed premises.....44	44	44
Number of cafes, restaurants,&c. 4	4	4
Number of General Stores.....43	36	36
Number of Works Canteens..... 5	5	5
Number of Butchers' Shops..... 5	4	5
Number of School canteens.....17	17	17
Number of Off-licensed Shops.... 5	5	5
Number of Fish and Chip Shops... 3	3	3
Number of Greengrocers' Shops... 2	1	1

Work in connection with the inspection of food premises continued during the year.

Number of premises inspected	...	130
Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	371
Number of informal notices served	...	57
Number of informal notices complied with	...	34
Number of informal notices outstanding at 31st December, 1971.	...	42
Number of premises modernised	...	8
Number where hot water supply laid on	...	4
Number of premises cleaned and redecorated	...	8

Regular routine inspections have been made to the premises in which food is prepared, stored and sold, to ensure compliance with the above Regulations. The number of inspections were 308.

Minor items are dealt with at the time of the visit but, where a contravention of the Regulations takes place, informal notices are sent with a view to getting the persons concerned to carry out the necessary works or institute certain hygienic practices.

Legal proceedings were taken against Mr. H.R. Statham of Hill Top Cafe, 112, High Street, Heasham for contravention of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960. These were mainly concerned with the dirty and unhygienic condition of the premises; the facilities used for the preparation and cooking of food; and the deplorable standard of the sanitary accommodation. As a result of this action Mr. Statham was fined £150, plus £10 costs. These premises were closed at the time of the action.

Food Hygiene (Market Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

Inspections were made of food vehicles whether they originate within this Rural District or are from districts outside, but retail within this area. Some 54 inspections were made and any points which arose from these resulted in informal notices being sent to the owners of the vehicles.

The Meat (Sterilisation) Regulations, 1969.

6 inspections have been made to the Knacker's yard in the district and particular attention has been given to the requirements of the above Regulations in connection with the sterilisation and disposal of unsound meat for animals.

In September a circular was received from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with relation to the tightening up of the Regulations in that all meat and offal which has not been produced in an hygienic manner should be considered unfit for the purpose of these Regulations and transported from the slaughterhouses in locked containers. Steps were taken to ensure that these arrangements were implemented.

Meat Inspection - Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

Inspections of all animals slaughtered at both slaughterhouses in the district was carried out and the numbers are slightly lower than the previous year. The visits by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Veterinary Officer have continued throughout the year, though it is difficult to see what purpose they serve since the enforcement of the appropriate legislation is the responsibility of the Local Authority.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed.	271	-	-	418	-
Number inspected.	271	-	-	418	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.					
Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned.	35	-	-	7	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	12.91	-	-	1.91	-
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis.					
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned.	1	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and total condemned.	-	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act.

Inspections for purposes of provision as to Health.
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.	Written Notices.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	4	-
(ii) Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	36	51	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	7	10	-
	44	65	-

	No. of cases in which defects were found.		
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred by H.M. Inspector.
Sanitary Conveniences.	9	9	-
Other Offences.	-	-	-

Part VIII of the Act.

Outworkers (Sections 110 and 111).	Number of Outworkers in August list required by Section 111 (1)(c).
Wearing apparel making, etc.	12

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Measham canal refuse tip was filled during the year and had to be closed. All refuse collected from the southern and western part of the district was deposited at the Donisthorpe tip. Work of extracting coal from 10 acres of the proposed Lount tip was commenced following receipt of the necessary planning permission and licence from the Opencast Coal Executive.

Work Study was carried out on the refuse collection service by a team from the County Council. The scheme was brought into use in the middle of the year and as a result there was an improvement in the service and the workmen were afforded the opportunity to earn additional pay, but it is likely that the costs will be higher than previously.

A scheme was also prepared in connection with the pail emptying and cesspool emptying service. All night soil is now disposed of at the Ravenstone Sewage Works.

Visits of inspection : 317

STREET LIGHTING.

The Council decided that street lighting be improved along those lengths of road where both the County Council and ourselves were the lighting authority in order that complete lengths of road be the responsibility of one authority only. Accordingly prices were obtained for improvements to the systems along Swannington Road and Wash Lane, Ravenstone, New Street, Measham, Measham Road, Oakthorpe and Ashby Road and Measham Road, Donisthorpe. At the year end the work of improvement was well advanced and the County Council will become the lighting authority for the whole of these roads.

During the year the County Council proceeded with the provision of Solar switches to replace time switches to lanterns which are under their control.

Visits of inspection : 63, plus survey.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

A considerable amount of damage continued to occur at the public conveniences in Donisthorpe. It was almost impossible to keep windows intact and experiments were made with a very thick reinforced plastic for this purpose. Maintaining a lighting supply was even more difficult, lamps, glasses and bulbs being smashed as quickly as they were replaced.

I wish to again thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Council for your kindness and help during the year and thank the Clerk, Medical Officer of Health, Accountant and Housing Manager for their help and constructive advice and the members of my staff for their loyal and energetic efforts.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C.S. CURTIS.

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